

IN THE RACE

Democratic Presidential candidate Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt., poses for a portrait before an interview with The Associated Press in Washington.
(AP Photo/Jacquelyn Martin)
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Vermont's Sanders Kicks Off 2016 Bid From Clinton's Left



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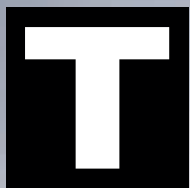
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NewsBreak: Russia, US close on Iran 'snap-back' sanctions

GEORGE JAHN
Associated Press

VIENNA (AP) — Moscow and Washington are close to agreement on a formula that bridges differences over U.S. demands to quickly re-impose U.N. sanctions on Iran if Tehran violates its commitments under a nuclear deal, officials told The Associated Press Tuesday.

Such an understanding would resolve a U.S.-Russian dispute that threatened to scuttle an agreement meant to impose long term cuts on Iran's nuclear programs in exchange for sanctions relief.

Washington sees a "snap-back" mechanism that allows previously lifted sanctions to be quickly reinstated as a cornerstone of any deal. Ben Rhodes, U.S. President Barack Obama's deputy national security adviser, told reporters last week that such a concept remained "the basic premise of our approach to sanctions."

But Russia opposes any automatic triggers.

A permanent member of the U.N. Security Council, it has vetoed attempts by

the U.S. and other Western council members to introduce such measures on other issues in the past. Opposed to such a precedent, it also rejects such a mechanism as part of the Iran nuclear deal now being worked on.

The two officials demanded anonymity because they were not allowed to discuss the confidential negotiations. They declined to go into details on the eve of a new round of Iran-six power talks on the expert level in Vienna and ahead of a June deadline for a deal.

But comments by France's ambassador to Washington Tuesday hinted at the possible compromise being worked on.

Gerard Araud said no structure was yet in place for snapping back sanctions but the basic premise would entail a majority vote of the five permanent Security Council members — the U.S., Russia, China, Britain and France.

That would be at variance with the usual rule of consensus. Still, it could ease Russian and Chinese opposition to the "snap-back" principle. □

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Obama urges Senate to renew phone-records program



President Barack Obama speaks to members of the media during his meeting with NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg, Tuesday, May 26, 2015, in the Oval Office of the White House in Washington. Obama calling on the Senate to act on USA Freedom Act. (AP Photo/Pablo Martinez Monsivais)

ERICA WERNER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama called on the Senate Tuesday to extend key

Patriot Act provisions before they expire five days from now, including the government's ability to search Americans' phone records.

"This needs to get done," he told reporters in the Oval Office. "It's necessary to keep the American people safe and secure." But with the May 31 deadline approaching, there was scant evidence of a search for a deal on Capitol Hill on Tuesday. The House and Senate stood in recess for the week, and a House Republican leadership aide said there were no talks happening between the two chambers. The aide spoke on condition of anonymity because the aide was not authorized to discuss the issue on the record.

The Senate adjourned for its recess early Saturday after a chaotic late-night session during which senators failed to pass a White House-backed House bill

reforming the phone collection program. Attempts by Republican GOP leaders to extend current law also fell short, amid objections and stalling techniques by presidential candidate Sen. Rand Paul, and others.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell is calling the Senate back into session on Sunday, May 31, just hours before the midnight deadline, but it's not clear lawmakers will have any new solution. And with the House bill, which passed by a wide bipartisan margin, just a few votes short in the Senate, House Republicans appear content to hold off on a search for compromise in hopes that pressure will increase on McConnell to accept their bill

or see the Patriot Act programs lapse.

"The Senate did not act and the problem we have now is that those authorities run out at midnight Sunday. I strongly urge the Senate to work through this recess to make sure they identify a way to get things done," Obama said after meeting with NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg. Obama noted that the controversial bulk phone collections program, which was exposed by National Security Agency contractor Edward Snowden, is reformed in the House bill, which does away with it and instead gives phone companies the responsibility of maintaining phone records that the government can search. □



Vermont's Sanders Kicks Off 2016 Bid From Clinton's Left

DAVE GRAM
KEN THOMAS
Associated Press

BURLINGTON, Vermont (AP)

— Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders vowed Tuesday to make income inequality, a campaign finance overhaul and climate change his leading issues as he takes on Hillary Rodham Clinton for the Democratic nomination.

Sanders kicked off his long-shot presidential campaign with a pitch to liberals in the Democratic Party and others who want change from a "rigged economy" that favors the rich.

"This type of rigged economy is not what America is supposed to be about," the self-described democratic socialist said in remarks prepared for his rally. The

event came several weeks after Sanders announced his candidacy — this time, the plan was to hand out free ice cream before his crowd of supporters.

He says there is "something profoundly wrong" when so much of the nation's income goes to the top 1 percent of all earners.

Sanders is trying to ignite a grassroots fire among left-leaning Democrats wary of Clinton — a group that pinned for months for Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren to get in the race. Some still do.

But while Warren remains committed to the Senate, repeatedly saying she won't run for the White House, Sanders is laying out an agenda in step with the party's progressive wing



Democratic Presidential candidate Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt., center, walks with Alexandra Flores-Quilty, 22, left, and Octavia Savage, 21, both with the U.S. Student Association, as they arrive for a news conference on Capitol Hill in Washington, Tuesday, May 19, 2015, to discuss college tuition legislation. (AP Photo/Jacquelyn Martin)

and Warren's platform — reining in Wall Street banks, tackling college debt and creating a government-financed infrastructure jobs program.

Clinton is in a commanding position by any measure, far in front of both Sanders and former Maryland Gov. Martin O'Malley, who is widely expected to get into the race Saturday.

Sanders, an independent in the Senate who often votes with the Democrats, has raised more than \$4 million since announcing in late April that he would seek the party's nomination. He suggested in the interview that raising \$50 million for the primaries was a possibility.

"That would be a goal," he said. □

Yellen to skip Jackson Hole conference

MARTIN CRUTSINGER
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — It turns out that being the first woman to head the Federal Reserve is not the only tradition Janet Yellen is breaking.

The Fed says she plans on skipping this year's gathering of the world's central bankers at Jackson Hole, Wyoming.

In a statement, the Fed said Yellen will participate in the August policy symposium from time to time

in future years as part her public speaking schedule. It did not say why she was skipping it this year.

The faithful attendance of her three predecessors — Paul Volcker, Alan Greenspan and Ben Bernanke — made the conference sponsored by Kansas City Federal Reserve Bank a widely sought invitation by central bank officials from around the globe. Kansas City Fed officials said they would have no comment on Yellen's decision. □

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At Press Time:

Floodwaters rise in Houston as rain continues



Motorists are stranded along I-45 along North Main in Houston after storms flooded the area, Tuesday, May 26, 2015. Heavy rains caused flooding closing some portions of major highways in the Houston area.

(Cody Duty/Houston Chronicle via AP)

KRISTIE RIEKEN
PAUL J. WEBER
Associated Press

HOUSTON (AP) — Floodwaters kept rising Tuesday across much of Texas

as storms dumped more rain on the Houston area, stranding hundreds of motorists and inundating the famously congested highways that serve the na-

tion's fourth-largest city. Meanwhile, the search went on for at least 13 people who were still missing, including a group that disappeared after a vacation home was swept down the river and slammed into a bridge.

Several more fatalities were reported — three in Houston and one more in Central Texas. That brought to 16 the number of people killed by the holiday weekend storms in Texas and Oklahoma.

The water continued rising overnight as about 11 more inches (28 more centimeters) of rain fell, much of it in a six-hour period.

The floodwaters affected virtually every part of the city and paralyzed some

areas. Firefighters carried out more than 500 water rescues, most involving stranded motorists. At least 2,500 vehicles were abandoned by drivers seeking higher ground, officials said.

The flooding closed several highways, and the ones that stayed open became a gridlocked mess.

A spokeswoman for the flood district of Harris County, which includes Houston, said up to 700 homes sustained some level of damage.

Officials in Hays County, southwest of Austin, said 30 people who had been reported as missing were accounted for by mid-afternoon Tuesday. □

ND cops: US airman shoots Wal-Mart workers, kills self

J. MacPHERSON
B. NICHOLSON
Associated Press

A U.S. airman walked into a Wal-Mart Supercenter in North Dakota early Tuesday and opened fire with a handgun, killing one worker and injuring a second before turning the gun on himself, police said.

Grand Forks Police said the shooting that occurred a few minutes after 1 a.m. may have been random, with no link yet found between Marcell Willis, 21, and either the store or the employees.

"We've not been able to find any linkage to him

and any of the victims. That's not to say that can't change," police Lt. Derik Zimmer said during an afternoon news conference. "There's no apparent motive that jumps out at this time."

Authorities did not immediately identify the two workers who were shot or a third worker they say Willis shot at but missed. The injured person was hospitalized with a gunshot wound that was not believed to be life-threatening, Zimmer said. A hospital spokeswoman said the person was listed in "satisfactory condition" Tuesday afternoon. □

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Cleveland, US Justice Department announce police settlement



Vanita Gupta, head of civil rights division at the Department of Justice, center, speaks at a news conference announcing the settlement agreement with the City of Cleveland Tuesday, May 26, 2015, in Cleveland. (AP Photo/Tony Dejak)

MARK GILLISPIE

Associated Press

CLEVELAND (AP) — Cleveland agreed to overhaul its police department under the supervision of a federal monitor in a settlement announced Tuesday with the U.S. Department of Justice over a pattern of excessive force and other abuses by officers.

The announcement comes three days after a white patrolman was acquitted of voluntary manslaughter charges in the shooting deaths of two unarmed black suspects in a 137-

shot barrage of police gunfire following a high-speed chase. The case helped prompt an 18-month investigation by the Justice Department.

In a report released in December, the department required the city to work with community leaders and other officials to devise a plan to reform the police department. A judge must approve the plan, and an independent monitor will oversee it.

The settlement calls for new use-of-force guidelines, a focus on community engagement, accountability reforms, training on bias-free policing and a mental health advisory committee. The worst examples of excessive force in the Justice Department report involved patrol officers who endangered lives by shooting at suspects and cars, hit people over the head with guns and used stun guns on handcuffed

suspects.

The agency said supervisors encouraged some of the bad behavior and often did little to investigate it. The department found that only six officers had been suspended for improper use of force over a three-year period.

Two other high-profile police-involved deaths still hang over the city: that of Tamir Rice, a 12-year-old black boy who was carrying a pellet gun at a playground when he was fatally shot by a white rookie patrolman Nov. 22, 2014, and that of 37-year-old Tanisha Anderson, a mentally ill woman who died of positional asphyxiation after officers took her to the ground and handcuffed her Nov. 12, 2014.

The investigation was the second time in recent years the Justice Department has taken the Cleveland police to task over the use of force. □

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Appeals panel won't lift hold on Obama immigration plan

KEVIN MCGILL

JUAN A. LOZANO


Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — President Barack Obama's plan to shield as many as 5 million immigrants living in the U.S. from deportation remained on hold Tuesday after a federal appeals court panel refused to allow it to take effect immediately. Obama announced an executive action in November seeking to expand a program that protects young immigrants from deportation if they were brought to the U.S. illegally as children. The order also would extend deportation protections to

some parents of U.S. citizens and permanent residents. Although Obama argued lack of action by Congress forced him to make sweeping changes on his own, Republicans blasted the plan as an executive overreach. Twenty-six states have sued to stop it, and a federal judge based in Texas issued a preliminary injunction against it in February.

The administration is appealing that injunction and had asked a three-judge panel of the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals to let the program proceed pending an argument on the merits, tentatively set for July. □

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US Financial Front:

Business investment climbs as factories thaw from winter



Workers install an engine in a new aluminum-alloy body Ford F-150 truck at the company's Kansas City Assembly Plant in Claycomo, Mo. Durable goods orders slipped in April, the Commerce Department reported Tuesday, May 26, 2015, but business investment climbed for a second month, a hopeful sign that this key sector is starting to revive.

(AP Photo/Charlie Riedel)

MARTIN CRUTSINGER
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Orders to U.S. factories for long-lasting manufactured goods fell slightly in April. But a category that reflects business investment climbed for a second month, a hopeful sign that this key sector is starting to revive.

Total orders for durable goods slipped 0.5 percent from March, when orders had surged 5.1 percent, the Commerce Department reported Tuesday. The big swing was driven by changes in commercial aircraft, an extremely volatile category that had jumped in March but fell in April.

Orders in the business investment category rose 1 percent in April after a 1.5 percent increase in March. The gains followed a sizable 5.1 percent fall in February. Business investment has been hurt by a stronger dollar sapping exports and cutbacks in the energy industry.

"The anticipated pick-up in the growth rate of business investment in equipment in the second quarter appears to be firmly on track," said Paul Ashworth, chief U.S. economist at Capital Economics.

He said the solid gain in orders for business investment indicated that the economy was starting to

return to stronger growth following a severe winter in the Northeast at the beginning of the year and the West Coast port dispute, which disrupted supply chains.

Demand for commercial aircraft had surged 40.7 percent in March only to fall 4 percent in April. Orders for motor vehicles and parts rose a modest 0.3 percent last month. Orders for durable goods excluding transportation posted a 0.5 percent rise in the first back-to-back increase this year.

Orders for primary metals fell 2.1 percent in April, and orders for computers dropped 3.4 percent. □

US home prices rose at solid pace in March from year ago

C. S. RUGABER
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. home prices rose at a steady pace in March, pushed higher by a limited supply of houses for sale. The Standard & Poor's/Case-Shiller 20-city home price index rose 5 percent in March from 12 months earlier, the S&P said Tuesday. Prices increased at the same pace in February.

Home values are rising at a faster rate than incomes, potentially pricing many would-be buyers out of the market. Yet current increases have moderated from the double-digit gains of late 2013 and early last year.

Higher prices have not yet convinced enough owners to list their homes for sale, which could limit purchases during the spring selling season. Would-be

buyers have fewer homes to choose from, which has sparked bidding wars in many cities. The median home sold in just 39 days in April, according to the National Association of Realtors, compared with 52 in March.

The biggest increases were in San Francisco and Denver, where prices rose 10.3 percent and 10 percent from a year ago, respectively. All 20 cities recorded price gains from the previous year. Cleveland and Washington, D.C. saw the smallest gains, with prices up 1 percent in both cities. At the current pace of sales, the supply of homes would last just 5.3 months, below the six months that is typical in a balanced market. The number of homes for sale fell 0.9 percent in April from a year earlier, the Realtors' group said last week. □



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Iraq begins operation to oust Islamic State from Anbar

S. SALAHEDDIN
Associated Press

BAGHDAD (AP) — Iraq vowed Tuesday to retake Anbar province — now mostly held by the Islamic State — by launching a large-scale military operation less than two weeks after suffering a humiliating defeat at the hands of the extremists in the provincial capital of Ramadi.

The operation, which Iraqi state TV said was backed by Shiite militias and Sunni pro-government fighters, is deemed critical in regaining momentum in the fight. But as a sandstorm descended across the region, there was no sign of any major engagement against the extremists, who have been gaining ground in the province west of

Baghdad despite U.S.-led airstrikes.

A Pentagon spokesman, Col. Steve Warren, said Iraqi forces have begun "shaping operations" and "security zone interactions," which he described as probing and reconnaissance actions that would precede any major combat in or around Ramadi.

The Iraqis have begun moving forward from their base at Habbaniyah, and IS fighters likewise are probing in the direction of Habbaniyah, Warren said. He added that he could not confirm that the Iraqi forces have surrounded Ramadi. The Islamic State — also known by the acronyms ISIS and ISIL, and Daesh in Arabic — seized large parts of Anbar in early 2014 and



Newly-arrived Iraqi Shiite militiamen check their weapons, in the predominately Sunni city of Nukhayb, southwest Iraq. Iraq vowed Tuesday to retake Anbar province launching a large-scale military operation less than two weeks after suffering a humiliating defeat at the hands of the extremists in the provincial capital of Ramadi.
(AP Photo)

captured Ramadi earlier in May. Iraqi forces, which had been making steady progress against the extremists in recent months with the help of the air campaign, scored a major victory in recapturing Saddam Hussein's hometown of Tikrit last month.

Elsewhere in Anbar province, the Islamic State group last week captured the Iraqi side of the key al-Walid border crossing with Syria. Those gains followed the IS seizure of the ancient town of Palmyra in Syria.

The launch of the operation in Anbar came only days after U.S. officials, including Defense Secretary Ash Carter, criticized Iraq's forces, saying its troops fled the IS advance on Ramadi without fighting back, leaving behind weapons and vehicles for the extremists. Baghdad defended its troops and said preparations were underway for the large-scale counteroffensive in Anbar, involving Iranian-backed Shiite

militias known as Popular Mobilization Units. That possibility sparked fears of potential sectarian violence in the Sunni-dominated province, long the site of protests and criticism of the Shiite-led government in Baghdad.

The Shiite militias chose a religious name for their campaign, deepening those worries and drawing criticism from the Pentagon. The Popular Mobilization Units have named it "Labaik Ya Hussein," which is Arabic for "I am here, Hussein" — referring to a grandson of the Prophet Muhammad and one of the most revered figures of Shiite Islam.

Warren called the title "unhelpful," adding: "We've long said ... the key to expelling ISIL from Iraq is a unified Iraq that separates itself from sectarian divides."

Karim al-Nouri, a spokesman for the Popular Mobilization Units, said the name wasn't sectarian.

"This name has no sectarian dimension (or meaning) because all Iraqis, regardless of their sect or religion, love Imam Hussein," al-Nouri said.

A spokesman for Iraq's Shiite militias said the operation would "not last for a long time," and that Iraqi forces have surrounded Ramadi on three sides.

New weapons are being used in the battle "that will surprise the enemy," said Ahmed al-Assadi, who is also a member of parliament. He told reporters that another operation was underway north of the nearby province of Salahuddin. Plans called for the forces in Salahuddin to move against Ramadi from its northeastern side, al-Assadi added. The Anbar operation aims to cut off supply routes and recapture the outskirts of Ramadi first — not the city itself, according to provincial councilman Faleh al-Issawi and tribesman Rafie al-Fahdawi. □

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Britain faces tension over push for less EU involvement



British Prime Minister David Cameron, center, stands with European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker, right, and European Council President Donald Tusk at the Eastern Partnership summit in Riga. (AP Photo/Mindaugas Kulbis)

R. CASERT

A. CHARLTON

Associated Press

PARIS (AP) — British Prime Minister David Cameron heads to continental Europe this week on a campaign to curtail EU involvement in national affairs. France and Germany, meanwhile, want to move in the opposite direction. Which formula is more likely

to ensure the EU's survival? That's the issue Cameron will face on his trip — and the existential question the EU is facing in the months to come. Cameron is visiting Denmark, the Netherlands, France, Germany and Poland as he launches his mission to scale back the EU's political powers over member states on sensitive

issues such as migration and welfare. Without such changes, he says, his compatriots may vote to pull Britain out of the EU altogether in a referendum he has promised before 2017. But France and Germany, whose post-war alliance formed the backbone of today's European Union, have their own mission. They sent an outline for

closer economic cooperation in a letter to European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker reported by Le Monde. Juncker's spokesman Margaritis Schinas welcomed the idea Tuesday as "key" to solidifying the shared euro currency and European unity.

Cameron's official spokesman, Jean-Christophe Gray, said Tuesday that discussions about the euro-zone shouldn't affect Cameron's trip this week. Britain does not use the euro. But he conceded that Cameron's trip might not be easy.

"Of course you'll have reports of ups and downs," Gray told reporters in London. "But he is very clear about the mandate that

he has and his determination to secure the best deal for the British people."

The conflicting initiatives are not necessarily mutually exclusive. But they do highlight a fundamental cross-Channel rift, with Britain ever more reluctant to throw in its lot with the other EU nations under the leadership of juggernauts Germany and France.

And Cameron may be acutely aware that in the past it has often proved next to impossible to reverse a proposal that Berlin and Paris put forward ahead of a summit of EU leaders. The next summit is June 25-26.

"The Franco-German contribution is useful, pertinent, important, key, I would say, in this process," Schinas said. □

AP NewsBreak:

EU to relocate 40,000 immigrants in union

LORNE COOK

Associated Press

BRUSSELS (AP) — The European Union will seek to shift the migration burden away from Italy and Greece by relocating 40,000 asylum seekers to other EU countries, according to a draft document seen by The Associated Press Tuesday. The relocation proposal, to be unveiled by the EU's executive Commission on Wednesday, would see new Syrian and Eritrean asylum seekers shared among 23 of the 28 member countries over the next two years. Britain, Denmark

and Ireland will not take part.

The move comes as the number of desperate migrants crossing the Mediterranean to get to Europe continues to rise, with more than 80,000 landing so far this year. The International Organization for Migration estimates that 1,820 other migrants have died or gone missing on that journey.

The influx has left countries like Italy, Greece, Malta, Germany and Sweden carrying the biggest burdens.

Under the emergency relo-

cation plan, which would have to be endorsed by member states and the European Parliament, countries "will receive 6,000 euros (\$6,531) for each person relocated on their territories" from EU coffers, according to the document. Germany would accept the most asylum seekers over the two years — a total of 8,763 — while France would take in 6,752. Spain, which faces migration challenges of its own, would also take a significant share, accepting 4,288 people in need of international protection. □

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Gunmen try to kill Libya's recognized prime minister

RAMI MUSA

Associated Press

BENGAZI, Libya (AP) —

Gunmen tried to assassinate Libya's internationally recognized prime minister on his way to the airport in the eastern city of Tobruk on Tuesday, a spokesman for his government said.

Arish Said, head of the government's media department, said that Prime Minister Abdullah al-Thinni's motorcade was attacked and one of his guards was lightly wounded but that there were no fatalities.

"They managed to escape," Said said.

Prior to the attack, he said armed men who had been protesting outside a session of the Tobruk government's House of Representatives tried to storm the building, firing shots into the air and demand-



Libyan Prime Minister Abdullah al-Thinni speaks in Moscow, Russia. A spokesman for Libya's internationally recognized government said Tuesday, May 26, 2015, that gunmen tried to assassinate al-Thinni on his way to the airport in the eastern city of Tobruk, Libya.

(AP Photo/Alexander Zemlianichenko, File)

ing al-Thinni be removed from office.

They were "threatening to kill the prime minister

and force the House to sack him," Said said. He

identified the men as being funded by "corrupted political financiers" linked to powerful Tobruk tribal leaders, without elaborating.

The session was postponed until next week before the attempted assassination.

Nearly four years after the ouster of longtime dictator Moammar Gadhafi, Libya is consumed by chaos. The country split is between an elected parliament and weak government, and a rival government and parliament in Tripoli set up by the Islamist-linked militias that took control the capital, forcing the government to relocate to the far eastern cities of Tobruk and Bayda.

The turmoil has enabled the rise of an active Islamic State branch, which now controls at least two cities along the country's coastline. Earlier Tuesday, Human Rights Watch said civilians, including foreign nationals, are trapped in several neighborhoods in Libya's embattled eastern city of Benghazi, urging fighters there to let them depart without conditions. In a statement, the U.S.-based group says militias and army units have surrounded the downtown areas, where several hundred people are reportedly trapped and not allowed to leave. Some of those trapped were Syrians, Palestinians, and Asian and African nationals.

Middle East and North Africa director Sarah Leah Whitson said that all forces involved must take all feasible precautions to minimize harm to civilians and civilian property, and that the Libyan army and militias must allow civilians safe passage and facilitate access to badly needed aid.

Yemen:

Fighters backing exiled government take southern city

AHMED AL-HAJ

Associated Press

SANAA, Yemen (AP) —

Fighters backing Yemen's exiled government captured a key city on the road to the port city of Aden, officials said Tuesday, the pro-government forces' first significant victory since a Saudi-led coalition began targeting Shiite rebels in airstrikes.

The fighters took Dhale, home to the command center of the 33rd Armored Brigade, the country's largest army unit that had been loyal to former Yemeni leader Ali Abdullah Saleh. Saleh has backed the rebels, known as Houthis, in their power grab across Yemen that began last September.

Government-allied fighters seized tanks, rocket

launchers and ammunition caches from the base at Dhale, some 120 kilometers (75 miles) from Aden, said the officials, speaking on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to talk to reporters.

Footage from Dhale aired on the Saudi-funded Al-Arabiya satellite news network showed fighters in one armored vehicle flying the flag of once-independent South Yemen. The fighters, though allied with exiled President Abed Rabbo Mansour Hadi, also want an independent southern state in the country, which was only unified in 1990.

Dozens of fighters on both sides have been killed in intense clashes around Dhale in the past two

weeks. Fighting between them still raged Tuesday on the city's outskirts, officials said.

The officials also said that in the city of Taiz, three civilians were killed and over 20 wounded when a mortar shell hit a passenger bus in the city center. Combatants on each side accused the other of firing the errant shell, which happened during intense fighting involving heavy weapons.

A Saudi-led coalition began targeting the Houthis and their allies on March 26. The U.N. estimates that at least 1,037 civilians, including 130 women and 234 children, have been killed between March 26 and May 20 in the fighting.

Hadi's government in ex-

ile has declared several provinces of Yemen disaster zones, including Dhale, where all basic services have collapsed. Due to the violence and a Saudi-led sea-and-air blockade, most Yemenis face severe shortages of fuel, water, medicine and food.

In a new report, international humanitarian group Oxfam warned that some 16 million people in Yemen don't have access to clean water.

"This is equivalent to the populations of Berlin, London, Paris and Rome combined, all rotting under heaps of garbage in the streets, broken sewage pipes and without clean water for the seventh-consecutive week," said Grace Ommer of Oxfam.



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China's army plays down South China Sea island-building

C. BODEEN

Associated Press

BEIJING (AP) — China's military on Tuesday compared its controversial island-building in the South China Sea to ordinary construction such as road-building going on elsewhere in the country, trying to deflect criticism over an issue seen as inflaming tensions in the region.

At the same venue, however, the Defense Ministry issued a report reaffirming China's more assertive approach to national defense that has put its neighbors on guard.

The document on China's military strategy said the navy would be adding "open seas protection" to traditional remit of "offshore waters defense," while boosting its ability to counterattack and conduct joint operations at sea.

The air force, meanwhile, will "endeavor to shift its focus from territorial air defense to both defense and offense," said the 25-page report, which was issued in

English and Chinese at a rare news conference presided over by uniformed officers.

mal Chinese protest over an incident last week in which a Chinese navy dispatcher warned off a U.S.

sive reclamation work.

The incident, documented by a CNN news crew on board the U.S. plane,

that Washington should not test Beijing's restraint or China would have "no choice but to engage."

China has bristled at what it sees as U.S. interference in the region and says it is within its sovereign rights in developing islands made from sand piled on top of reefs and atolls.

The U.S. and many of China's neighbors see the island-building as an upending of the status quo by China to bolster its claims to the region and possibly pave the way for military installations far from its shores.

In one disputed area, the Spratly Islands, U.S. officials say China has created about 800 hectares (2,000 acres) of dry land since 2014 that could be used as airstrips.

The U.S. argues that man-made constructions cannot be used to claim sovereignty and is closely watching for signs that China will seek to back up its claims by basing missile systems and fighter aircraft on the newly formed islands. □



A Dolphin Z-9 helicopter of China's Navy missile frigate CNS Yulin flies off the deck of Singapore's Navy missile frigate RSS Intrepid during the "Exercise Maritime Cooperation 2015" by Singapore and Chinese navies in the South China Sea. China's military on Tuesday, May 26 compared its controversial island-building in the South China Sea to ordinary construction such as road-building going on elsewhere in the country, trying to deflect criticism over an issue seen as inflaming tensions in the region.

(Then Chih Wey/Xinhua via AP)

The report's issuance and comments from ministry spokesman Yang Yujun at the briefing followed a for-

Navy P8-A Poseidon surveillance aircraft as it flew over Fiery Cross Reef, where China has conducted exten-

prompted a testy editorial Monday in the official Communist Party newspaper Global Times that warned

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First count shows Bouterse party gets majority in Suriname

PARAMARIBO, Suriname (AP) — The party of former military dictator Desi Bouterse obtained the majority of Parliament seats in the South American country of Suriname, according to preliminary results released Tuesday.

Bouterse's National Democratic Party obtained 26 of 51 seats following Monday's general election, while the main opposition V7 alliance party led by former Justice Minister Chan Santokhi obtained 17 seats, according to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Bouterse now needs a two-thirds majority vote in Parliament to be re-elected president. If he wins, he would rule Suriname for another five years. Legislators have to be sworn in by June 30.

There were no reports of violence or irregularities, according to election observers with the Organization

of American States. There are 353,000 registered voters in the country of some 550,000 people.

Bouterse is a two-time coup leader and former dictator accused of executing 15 political opponents in 1982. He also was convicted in absentia in the Netherlands in 1999 on drug trafficking charges, but Suriname does not have an extradition treaty with its former colonial ruler.

Bouterse also obtained immunity as head of state when he was democratically elected in 2010 amid widespread discontent with Suriname's economy.

Santokhi had accused Bouterse's party of financial mismanagement, noting that Suriname's debt had increased to more than \$1 billion in recent years. He also had vowed to reverse an amended amnesty law and restart Bouterse's prosecution for the 1982 killings



Suriname President Desi Bouterse greets supporters in Paramaribo, Suriname. The party of Bouterse obtained the majority of Parliament seats in the South American country of Suriname, according to preliminary results released Tuesday.

(AP Photo/Ertugrul Kilic)

if elected president. Bouterse's son, Dino, also has faced legal problems. A U.S. judge sentenced him

earlier this year to more than 16 years in prison after he admitted to offering Lebanese militant group

Hezbollah a home base in Suriname. Dino Bouterse once led Suriname's anti-terrorist unit. □

Missing family found in Mexico, toll in Mexico tornado at 13

SETH ROBBINS Associated Press CIUDAD ACUNA, Mexico (AP) — The body of a baby carried away by a tornado was found in the northern Mexico border city of Ciudad Acuna, Mayor Evaristo Perez said Tuesday following a sudden catastrophic storm that killed 13 and destroyed more than 200 homes.

City spokesman Edgar Gonzalez originally said the child's death added to 13 earlier confirmed deaths, but officials later said the baby — whose body was

found amid the rubble of shattered houses — had already been included in the toll of dead.

The baby had been carried off by the force of the tornado, apparently from a car.

Earlier reports suggested the child had been in a baby carrier.

Perez also said authorities had located a family of four who had been reported missing. It turned out they had been visiting another town when the twister hit.

The tornado touched down early Monday, and

injured about 300 people, destroyed 200 homes and damaged about 800, affecting some 4,000 inhabitants.

Some of the homes were reduced to mounds of cinderblock and rubble, making the search more difficult.

Gerardo Aguinaga and his sister, Perla Isabel, stood in front of a concrete slab where the family's home and taco business had once stood.

The house had been flattened by the storm, and bulldozers were sent in

Tuesday to clear off the rubble and allow the family to rescue any salvageable possessions.

Gerardo was able to find only his stepfather's wallet and a pair of mismatched shoes, all the family had left.

"I don't have papers, I don't have anything. There are a lot of people who lost everything," said Perla Isabel Aguinaga. "We have no place to live."

Their stepfather, Edgar Gerardo Gonzalez, 37, their mother, Alma Isabel, and Perla's 5-year-old son, Bry-

an, were in the house when the twister hit.

Alma Isabel and Bryan hid under a bed as the home collapsed around them. She survived with back injuries and bruises, and Bryan suffered gashes to his head. Both are out of danger. But the stepfather was standing at the back of the house, leaning against a wall that fell on him, injuring him more seriously. Despite his wounds, the stepfather managed to dig himself out, rescue his wife and the boy and take them to a neighbor's house. □



With Arion Wine Company:

Hyatt Regency Presents the Unforgettable 'California Nights'



PALM BEACH – An opportune alignment of exceptional talent and good taste inspired the creation of a rare culinary event that took place recently, in the Palms Restaurant at the Hyatt Regency. The event, titled California Nights, offered up a six-course gourmet dinner, inspired by Arion Wine Company and Jackson Family Wines. Hosting the dinner was Jackson Family Wines' Master Sommelier Jennifer Huether, the first female Master Sommelier in Canada, recognized by the Court of Master Sommeliers. Huether poured the winery's top-of-the-line wines, pairing them with exquisite offerings conceived

by award-winning executive chef Vincent Pellegrini and lovingly prepared his culinary brigade. Heather also provided ongoing commentary throughout the event, sharing her deep knowledge of all things related to wine. Gervin v/d Hout of Arion Wine Company expertly oversaw the wine pairings. To start the evening off on a fun note, guests were welcomed with a black wine glass, meant to hide the color of the wine, and were asked to sniff, taste and examine the contents of the glass in order to figure out if it was a red or a white wine. They then had to give a description and divine the origins of the

wine, which turned out to be a Sauvignon Blanc from the Napa Valley.

After having sparked the guests' appetite for a magical evening, the menu of layered, complex and surprising food combinations kicked off with a Burrata Cheese appetizer paired with Galarie Naissance Sauvignon Blanc, 2013, Napa Valley, followed by a Duck Confit, escorted by the popular Byron Pinot Noir, 2012, Santa Maria Valley. Diners then delighted in the Roasted Cigar Salmon, chased by Stonestreet Chardonnay, 2012, Sonoma Valley. For the Intermezzo, an exotic passion fruit sorbet with a splash of Arrowood Chardonnay, Sonoma Valley, paved the way for the arrival of the main course, Seared Tenderloin with roasted garlic, shitake mushroom ragout, charcoal artichoke and porcini reduction, served with both Stonestreet Cabernet Sauvignon 2010 and the highly Robert Parker rated Cardinale, 2010, Napa Valley, which encouraged the discussion of personal preferences among dinner guests. The dessert featured one of the chef's signature specialties Cream of Papaya, with blueberries, hibiscus Cabernet dressing and melt-in your mouth Pistachio Macaroons, which was enhanced by an exquisite golden elixir, Kendall-Jackson Late Harvest Chardon-



nay, 2007, Monterey County. Chef Pellegrini whose passion for food, combined with his culinary expertise and welcoming person-



ality, made him a household name in Aruba, is a champion of Hyatt Hotels & Resorts' global food philosophy, as he thoughtfully sources and carefully serves meals focused on healthy preparations, fit for royalty as he recently cooked all meals for his Royal Highness, King

Willem-Alexander of the Netherlands, and his wife Queen Maxima, staying at the Hyatt Regency, on an official visit to the island.

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Our photos show some of the unforgettable moments during the California Nights dinner, presented by Arion Wine Company, Jackson Family Wines and Hyatt Regency. □



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In our years as proprietors of Cuba's Cookin' we have had a great time meeting so many of you and sharing our love of this rich culture: a love for dance, traditional Cuban music – salsa, bolero, cha-cha-cha – and, of course, the great food and art! Now for the first time we have encountered the Tan-

go! Although not originated from Cuba the dance has its roots steeped in Latin America and has taken a small foothold in Cuba itself for its steamy style and exaggerated contact. The truth of the matter is this dance is classic and when Marie and Rafa came to us demonstrating their love and commitment to their

craft we immediately gave them Wednesday Nights to perform their show of Tango elegance. Come and join Cuba's Cookin' Wednesday evening at 8:00pm for a special Tango performance and enjoy dinner and some truly thrilling moments that only this culture has to offer. Reservations: 588-0627. □

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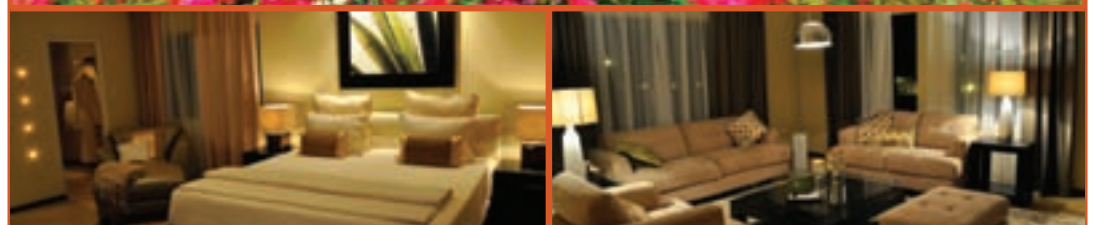
a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for 20-to-34 consecutive years. The honorees were Mr. Edwin and Mrs. Trudi Mathison from Greensboro, Georgia. Edwin and Trudi are loyal members of the

Marriott Surf Club and they love Aruba very much because of the friendly people, the weather, the beaches, the restaurants and the relaxation! They say being on Aruba and staying at the Surf Club

is like being in paradise! The certificates were presented by Mr. Ernest Giel representing the Aruba Tourism Authority together with Mrs. Jenny Boekhoudt representing the Marriott Surf Club. □



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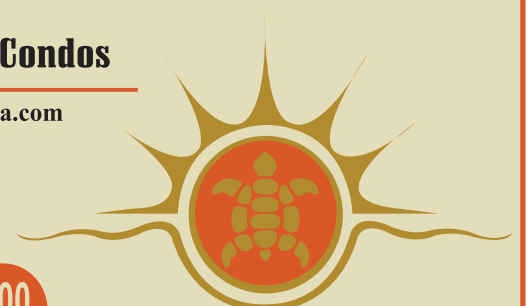


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SOUL BEACH MUSIC FESTIVAL15 COMES TO A CLOSE



The 15th edition of the Soul beach Music Festival came to a close on Sunday night with Trey Songz' super finale. In front of a largely mixed crowd of Americans and locals this young performer belted out one hit after another. The night started with the ever-elegant Brit, Estelle. She seamlessly shuffled between Reggae and R&B set that included Grammy award winner 'American Boy' and 'Conqueror' from hit Fox TV show Empire. She was followed by the electrifying Trenaime Neverson, better known as Grammy award winner Trey Songz. With the crowd, especially the ladies, as his background singers the singer, actor, rapper burned through his repertoire of hits. Saturday night was a night to be missed. Dru Hill was billed as an opening act but it



was not. The Dru Hill show was simply and outstanding with a hint of Sisco. Dru Hill sans Nokia was in full effect. Remember when the filled the airwaves? They churned out their string of Top 20 R&B. Not to be outdone curtain came down with the 'Thong Song.' And then came the Charlie, last name, Wilson Experience. The show that stole the show, Wilson was new school Uncle Charlie, old school Gap Band and a little testify at church. Songs in the high-energy set included Gap Band classics 'Burn Rubber' and 'Outstanding', and multitude of solo hits 'There Goes My Baby' and 'Charlie, Last Name Wilson.' He bought, perhaps, the best ever night to the Soul Beach Music Festival to a close with another Gap Band classic 'Yearning For Your Love' . □





American Sock ousts Dimitrov on 'favorite surface' in Paris

HOWARD FENDRICH

AP Tennis Writer

PARIS (AP) — Ah, the French Open, the time of year when a certain question is asked repeatedly by American tennis fans: Why can't the country's players, particularly the men, find success on red clay?

Now comes along Jack Sock, a 22-year-old born in Nebraska and currently residing in Florida, who unabashedly calls the slow stuff "my favorite surface." Yes, that's right, even though there are not many red clay courts in the United States — Sock first encountered them in Europe — and even though, at first glance, they're considered less-than-ideal for players who thrive on speedy serves and forehands. Sock and another U.S. man, 16th-seeded John Isner, both fit that description. Both won first-round matches at Roland Garros on Tuesday. "This just suits my game very well," Sock said. "I'm able to take my time and kind of maneuver the ball around. Movement is another big part of my game. I feel like on the clay, I get to a lot of balls."

He did just that Tuesday on bullring-shaped Court 1 during a 7-6, (7), 6-2, 6-3 victory over Bulgaria's Grigor Dimitrov, who was a Wimbledon semifinalist last year and was seeded 10th

in Paris, making him the top man to lose so far.

Dimitrov's take?

"Jack played his game," he said.

Clearly, too. Sock hit 30 winners and made only 18 unforced errors (10 fewer than Dimitrov) and saved all six break points he faced. Pounding serves at up to 136 mph (220 kph), leaping into his big forehands, and effectively pressing forward to win the point on 19 of 25 trips to the net.

Not traditional clay-court tennis, necessarily. But it worked.

"I may have been one of the first to really like it," said Sock, who won his first ATP singles title last month in Houston on green clay. "For me personally, I look forward to this time of year."

The 6-foot-10 Isner, who beat Italy's Andreas Seppi 7-5, 6-2, 6-3, is also learning to like the crushed dirt.

"A lot is said about clay and how it's a defensive surface. It's sort of, I would say, a misconception," Isner said. "I think clay is a very good attacking surface. A guy like (Rafael Nadal), yeah, he plays great defense, but knocks the cover off the ball."

Four of the seven U.S. men in this year's field already are gone, as are 13 of the 17 women from the coun-

try. Andre Agassi was the last American man to even get to the quarterfinals at the French Open, and that was all the way back in 2003.

Sock, who won the 2014 Wimbledon doubles title, had surgery to repair a torn hip muscle in December, so his 2015 season began late. He also dealt with a more worrisome matter this year: His older brother had a serious lung infection.

"He's doing much better now. He's got full, I guess, health back," Sock said. "It's been a lot outside of tennis for me, a lot of stuff going on. It's motivated me in a lot of ways to see a family member — and especially my brother; I'm very close with him — go through what he did. And I was in the hospital every day with him after I had surgery, so just back-to-back things that were very unfortunate."

His win over Dimitrov represented the day's only departure by a seeded man. Two seeded women were beaten: No. 6 Eugenie Bouchard, a semifinalist at the French Open and runner-up at Wimbledon last year but a loser of eight of her past nine matches; and No. 25 Jelena Jankovic, the runner-up at the 2008 U.S. Open.

Things went as expected for the very best of the best: Nadal, Novak Djokovic and Serena Williams — owners of 41 Grand Slam singles titles among them — all delivered straight-set wins on Court Philippe Chatrier.

There were some blips, however brief. Nine-time champion Nadal lamented that he started slowly.

Djokovic was two points from losing the second set before reeling off 22 of 29 points. And Williams? She got fooled by the awkward spin of one shot and got plunked by the ball, leading to laughter.

"I'm allegedly a professional tennis player. And I was thinking, 'I'm going to hit a backhand.' 'I will hit a forehand.' And, 'I will run around and hit a backhand.' 'No, no, no, run around and hit a forehand.' Next thing I know, it hit me in the back," Williams said. "So I was, like, embarrassed. At the same time, I thought it was really funny. It happens to the best of us. Maybe not. But to me." □



Spain's Rafael Nadal returns in the first round match of the French Open tennis tournament against Quentin Halys of France at the Roland Garros stadium, in Paris, France, Tuesday, May 26, 2015. Nadal won in three sets 6-3, 6-3, 6-4.

Associated Press



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TripAdvisor - January 5th, 2015

Sidebar's signature burgers have been named The Sidebar, The Afterburner, The Goliath, The Texan, The Chaser, The Primal and The Italian Job and we are sure that everyone will be able to find a burger that calls out to them. The burgers come with brie cheese, prosciutto, Cheddar cheese, zucchini, sliced steak, Bourbon bbq sauce, dripping gravy and much more, depending on your order. The best thing is that these gourmet beauties cost less than \$ 15.--, so lunch or an evening out won't break the bank.

Feel love for Sidebar's burgers; they are bursting with taste— try them all and find your personal favorite. Come on down to Sidebar and rock your Wildest West with a fabulously tasty burger that packs a punch with its layers of flavor. And if you are not in a burger mood, then Sidebar has a wonderfully varied menu of all kinds of other options, ranging from vegetarian mushrooms and spinach to a zucchini cutlet to lovely salads, homemade soups, pastas and fish dishes.

Wash your lunch or dinner down with a premium, aged Bourbon or try the ice-cold beers on tap to slake your thirst. You can choose between Heineken, Balashi, Chill, Stella Artois, Miller Light or Presidente. Come inside, at the bar or sit outside on the terrace; at Sidebar there will always be a place for you.



Picture: "THE TEXAN" GOURMET BURGER

Alberto Contador shows off climbing skills on Mortirolo

APRICA, Italy (AP) — Alberto Contador put on a demonstration of his climbing skills on the steep Mortirolo pass and extended his lead in the 16th stage of the Giro d'Italia on Tuesday. Spanish rider Mikel Landa posted his second consecutive stage victory after getting clearance from the Astana team to leave behind captain Fabio Aru, who again struggled. Landa required just over 5 hours over the 174-kilometer (108-mile) leg from Pinzolo to Aprica, which included five categorized climbs. Dutch rider Steven Kruijswijk finished second, 38 seconds behind, and Contador crossed third with the same time. Aru finished nearly three

minutes behind Landa, who moved ahead of the Italian into second. Contador had some mechanical problems on a descent before the Mortirolo but surged into the lead on the climb, passing one rider after another. Tinkoff-Saxo teammate Ivan Basso, a two-time Giro winner, gave Contador his wheel after the Spaniard punctured. "It was a very difficult and complex stage," Contador said. "But that's cycling." Marco Pantani won a memorable stage on the Mortirolo in 1994 and there is a monument along the climb to remember the Italian, who died of a cocaine overdose in 2004. Contador said Pantani's



Spain's Mikel Landa celebrates as he crosses the finish line to win the 16th stage of the Giro d'Italia, Tour of Italy cycling race from Pinzolo to Aprica, Italy, Tuesday, May 26, 2015.

Associated Press

exploits were an inspiration for his career, and he wanted to honor the Italian. "It's a stage I'll remember forever, and I hope the fans will, too," Contador said. Contador leads Landa by 4:02, with Aru third, 4:52 behind. "Today I really proved

that I can be one for the strongest riders on the climbs, and we still have several uphill finishes left," Landa said. "As a team, we will have to stick together and stay attentive, because what happened to Contador today could

happen to one of us." Stage 17 on Wednesday is a 134-kilometer (83-mile) leg from Tirano to Lugano, Switzerland, featuring one Category 3 climb and some rolling hills. The 98th Giro ends Sunday in Milan. □

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Usain Bolt wins 200 at cold, wet Golden Spike meet

KAREL JANICEK
Associated Press

OSTRAVA, Czech Republic

(AP) — Usain Bolt cruised to victory in the 200 meters race at the Golden Spike meet on Tuesday, as the Jamaican star prepares for the world championships after a season marred by injuries.

Facing rain and cold at the IAAF World Challenge event, Bolt had the slowest reaction of all the sprinters, his traditional problem.

"It was one of my slowest reactions in a long time," Bolt said. "For me it was not a perfect day. It wasn't a perfect curve."

Still, the six-time Olympic champion came out of the bend slightly ahead and breezed unchallenged to victory, crossing the line in 20.13. Isiah Young of the United States finished second in 20.35 and Lykourgos Stefanos Tsakonas of Greece was third in 20.62.



Usain Bolt of Jamaica crosses the finish line winning the 200 meters men event at the Golden Spike Athletic meeting in Ostrava, Czech Republic, Tuesday, May 26, 2015.

Associated Press

"The shape that I'm in, and I'm coming back, I don't really know what to say is a decent time, or not," Bolt said. "I think I just need races, need to run a lot."

Bolt improved on his previous season's best of 20.20, clocked in April in Jamaica, though both are still

far from his world record of 19.19 set in 2009. On Tuesday, it was more about dipping below 20 seconds.

"You can't be satisfied if I don't break 20.0, I really wanted to," Bolt said. "The conditions didn't allow. And I'm coming back from injuries, so it's going to take time."

He said he was not worried by not running fast times just yet.

Tuesday was his first race in Europe this season as he prepares for the worlds in August in Beijing.

"I don't really try to stress too much over time," Bolt said. "I just want to get everything together and start feeling better."

He will have more chances to improve his times in the Diamond League meets in New York in June, and in Paris and Lausanne, Switzerland, the following month.

"The more I run the better

I feel, the faster I can go," Bolt added. "Hopefully, in New York (there) are better conditions and I'll be able to push myself."

His countryman Asafa Powell won the 100 in 10.04, ahead of Young in 10.13 and while Britain's Richard Kilty clocked 10.31 in third. "The time in this condition isn't that bad after all," Powell said.

Olympic champion Christian Taylor of the United States leaped 17.52 to win the men's triple jump for a meet record.

"I'm very happy with my performance today," said Taylor, who jumped 18.04 in Doha, Qatar, at a Diamond League meet earlier in May, the fourth-longest of all time.

Looking ahead, he added: "Of course, I'll try to go for gold and attack the world record" in Beijing.

World high jump champion Bogdan Bondarenko

cleared 2.24 to take his event.

In a rarely contested distance, Olympic 800-meter champion David Rudisha of Kenya didn't finish the 600 race due to what appeared to be a right leg injury. Poland's Adam Kszczot clocked 1:16.02 to win. In the women's events, ChaRonda Williams of the United States won the 200 comfortably in 23.11. Jamaica's Kerron Stewart finished second in 23.43 and Britain's Bianca Williams was third in 23.50.

Sharika Nelvis of the United States took the 100 hurdles in 12.55, ahead of Alina Talay of Belarus in 12.78 and Tiffany Porter of Britain in 12.90.

World champion Zuzana Hejnova won the 400 meters hurdles, clocking 55.13 ahead of another Czech runner, Denisa Rosolova and South African Wenda Nel. □

Harden helps Rockets stay alive, beat Warriors 128-115

HOUSTON (AP) — Houston's James Harden scored a playoff career-high 45 points while Golden State's Stephen Curry suffered a scary fall as the Rockets led from start to finish and beat the Warriors 128-115 on Monday to stave off elimination from the NBA playoffs.

The Rockets scored 45 points in the first quarter — equaling a playoff record — to quickly get on top. They were up by 22 in the second quarter when league MVP Curry landed on his head in a nasty spill and missed about 12 minutes before returning. Curry's first field goal after returning was a 3-pointer that got Golden State within six points with less than 8-1/2 minutes remaining. But Harden, who had 17 points in the fourth quarter, scored the next seven points as part of 10 straight by Houston to push the lead to 114-98 and effectively end it, cutting the series deficit to 3-1.

Harden's match-winning performance made up for a disappointing output in Game 3.

"I always want to take it out on my opponent in a good way," Harden said. "Just being aggressive, taking

shots, getting to the basket, not really forcing anything and allowing the game to come to me."

Klay Thompson had 24 points and Curry added 23 for Golden State, which had been looking to secure its first trip to the NBA Finals since 1975 after routing Houston 115-80 on Saturday night to take a 3-0 lead in the series.

The Warriors will try again at home in Game 5 on Wednesday.

Houston bounced back from a 3-1 deficit to the Los Angeles Clippers in the conference semifinals. But they face a much bigger challenge in this series, as no team in NBA history has won a playoff series after trailing 3-0.

Houston's Dwight Howard had 14 points and 12 rebounds, and received a flagrant 1 foul early in the third quarter after throwing an elbow at Andrew Bogut's head.

He would be suspended by accumulation of flagrant foul points if the NBA upgrades it to a flagrant 2 after review.

"I hope not," Howard said when asked about that possibility. "But there's nothing I can do about it at this point. It's never my in-

tention to hurt anybody on the floor. My reaction was to try to get him off me, but I can't react that way."

The Warriors made 20 3-pointers and Houston had 17 to set an NBA record for most 3-pointers combined in a playoff game.

Curry was injured after he jumped in the air as Trevor Ariza was about to go up for a shot. Ariza saw him and stopped abruptly, causing Curry to be up-ended in midair when he crashed into Ariza's shoulder. His head hit the court and it propelled him up and back onto the floor where he remained for several minutes.

Curry looked dazed as he was attended to before slowly getting up and walking off the court.

"It was all minor stuff compared to how it looked," Curry said.

"But I'll get some good rest and be ready to go. Since it happened to now, nothing has gotten worse."

Ariza didn't realize who it was that sailed over him until the play was over.

"I was just trying to pump fake and get somebody off their feet," Ariza said. "I didn't know that he flipped over ... it wasn't intentional or anything like that." □



Houston Rockets guard James Harden (13) celebrates with forward Terrence Jones (6) after a 3-point basket against the Golden State Warriors during the first half in Game 4 of the NBA basketball Western Conference finals Monday, May 25, 2015, in Houston.

Associated Press

Cardinals 3, Diamondbacks 2, 10 innings

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Jhonny Peralta hit a game-ending homer in the 10th inning, lifting St. Louis to a victory Arizona.

Peralta's leadoff drive to left on a 1-2 pitch from J.C. Ramirez (1-1) was his fourth career game-winning homer. The Cardinals improved to 4-1 in five extra-inning home games in May, including a sweep against the Pirates at the beginning of the month.

Mark Trumbo hit a tying two-run homer in the eighth for Arizona, but the Diamondbacks stranded five the last two innings. The Cardinals wasted two hits to open the ninth when Ramirez struck out Matt Carpenter, Matt Holliday

and Matt Adams.

Carlos Martinez matched his career high with eight strikeouts in seven scoreless innings for St. Louis, which got an RBI apiece from Matt Adams and Jason Heyward. Trevor Rosenthal (1-0) retired Michael Owings and Tuffy Gosewisch with the bases loaded to end the 10th.

DODGERS 6, BRAVES 3

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Andre Ethier, Alex Guerrero and Jimmy Rollins each homered in the eighth inning, rallying Los Angeles to a victory over Atlanta.

Ethier got things started, homering to snap a 2-all tie against Nick Masset (0-1). Ethier's bases-loaded walk in the first drove in the

Dodgers' initial run.

Pinch-hitter Guerrero sent a 3-1 pitch into the left-field pavilion, scoring A.J. Ellis, who walked, to make it 5-2. With two outs, Rollins homered for a 6-2 lead.

It was the Dodgers' most runs scored since getting six on May 15 against Colorado. They lead the majors with 60 homers.

Adam Liberatore (1-0) got the victory, tossing 11 pitches. Kenley Jansen got three outs in the ninth for his fourth save.

NATIONALS 2, CUBS 1

CHICAGO (AP) — Wilson Ramos hit a tiebreaking homer in the sixth, Tanner Roark pitched five effective innings and Washington beat Chicago. □

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GEORGE CLOONEY | BRITT ROBERTSON
TOMORROWLAND
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES
MON-FRI 4:00 | 6:20 | 9:05
SAT, SUN & HOL 3:35 | 6:20 | 9:05
MON-THURS 5:15 | 8:00
FRI 5:15 | 8:00 | 10:45
SAT 2:30 | 5:15 | 8:00 | 10:45
SUN & HOL 2:30 | 5:15 | 8:00

3D

SAM ROCKWELL | ROSEMARIE DEWITT
POLTERGEIST
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES
3D VERSION
MON-THURS 5:10 | 9:40
FRI 5:10 | 9:40 | 11:55
SAT 5:10 | 9:40 | 11:55
SUN & HOL 5:10 | 9:40
2D VERSION
MON-FRI 7:25
SAT, SUN & HOL 2:55 | 7:25

3D

REESE WITHERSPOON | SOFIA VERGARA
HOT PURSUIT
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES
MON-THURS 5:05 | 7:10 | 9:20
FRI 5:05 | 7:10 | 9:20 | 11:30
SAT 3:00 | 5:05 | 7:10 | 9:20 | 11:30
SUN & HOL 3:00 | 5:05 | 7:10 | 9:20

3D

TOM HARDY | CHARLIZE THERON
MAD MAX FURY ROAD
3D VERSION
MON-THURS 4:20 | 9:30
FRI-SAT 4:20 | 9:30 | 12:05
SUN & HOL 4:20 | 9:30
2D VERSION
MON-FRI 6:55
SAT, SUN & HOL 1:50 | 6:55

PG-13

ANNA KENDRICK | REBEL WILSON
PITCH PERFECT 2
MON-THURS 4:15 | 6:45 | 9:15
FRI 4:15 | 6:45 | 9:15 | 11:30
SAT 1:50 | 4:15 | 6:45 | 9:15 | 11:30
SUN & HOL 1:50 | 4:15 | 6:45 | 9:15

PG-13

ROBERT DOWNEY JR. | CHRIS EVANS
AVENGERS AGE OF ULTRON
MON-FRI 6:00 | 9:00
SAT, SUN & HOL 3:00 | 6:00 | 9:00

R

HEATHER SOSSAMAN | MATTHEW BOHRER
UNFRIENDED
MON-THURS 9:10
FRI 9:10 | 11:15
SAT 9:10 | 11:15
SUN & HOL 9:10

PG

KEVIN JAMES | RAINI RODRIGUEZ
PAUL BLART MALL COP 2
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES
MON-THURS 4:40 | 6:50
FRI 4:40 | 6:50
SAT 2:30 | 4:40 | 6:50
SUN & HOL 2:30 | 4:40 | 6:50

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The Sexual Influences on Love

By: Dr. Carlos Viana

What people feel as love has many faces. True love empowers people to go beyond their ego and to connect in honest personal relationships. Unfortunately Western society sets us up to be dysfunctional with romantic relationships. We are taught that the goal is getting the relationship. Regrettably, as long as we believe that someone else has the power to make us happy, we are setting ourselves up to be victims.

Arranged marriages, practiced around the world, have their good and bad points, but sociologically; we acknowledge the rates of divorce among arranged marriages is well below the average 80% in western romantic love marriages. Interestingly, in countries that practice arranged marriages there is an established cultural sexual education. The Indians and Pakistanis have the Kama Sutra, Japan has their Pillow Book, and the Chinese have had The Golden Lotus. We need to ask ourselves as a community, from where our relevant sexual education will come.

Today, the word intimacy has taken on sexual connotations. But it includes different dimensions of our lives. Yes, the physical, but also the social, emotional, mental and spiritual aspects as well. Intimacy really means total sharing.

Many people have problems with intimacy. Addicts seek chemical or behavior highs to substitute for the support and intimacy they really need but do not allow themselves. Codepen-

dents are individuals who are attached to people/addicts who behave in ways that are self-destructive and/or injure those around them. Children of addicted parents come from a home environment where they experienced daily inconsistency, fear, abandonment, denial, and real or potential violence. When adults who were abused as children try to form romantic relationships they suffer from anxiety, depression, and poor self-esteem. Some have no sexual desire; others may have a high sex drive, but, both have intimacy problems.

Other factors working against establishing intimacy is a socially programmed mistrust between the sexes. In Latin America and other societies, we start with boys and girls segregated socially that continues into adulthood. Each develops friendships in a different manner setting up a social mistrust to the other sex.

There is biology of passion where the physical functioning of sexual activity has been scientifically documented. Sexual intercourse for both sexes consists of pulsing energy movement. The phenomenon of orgasm in the healthy woman medically resembles the orgasm of a man. Having regular and enthusiastic sex confers physical advantages, for both sexes. Postmenopausal women, who no longer have orgasms develop atrophy or withering of the vagina or pain associated with intercourse. Lower back and leg pain leading to bent over posture and incontinence

is becoming very common. Acupuncture can help move this type of blocked energy and relieve many of its side effects including pain, stress as well as improve the sleep quality.

There is a change of body chemistry when one has a climax which enhances the production of sex hormones and neurotransmitters such as dopamine and serotonin which reduced depression. During a climax a hormone that helps couples bond is released. Levels of this hormone, Oxytocin rise during childbirth, breast feeding and during an orgasm. People that produce more oxytocin are more likely to trust other people and able to develop more healthy relationships. Unfortunately, some people have problems achieving a climax that could signal a deficiency of zinc or lecithin. These metabolic imbalances, preventing a healthy sexual response can be corrected clinically. Individuals able to experience a satisfying climax during sex feel personal satisfaction, and tenderness toward their partner correlating their sexual response with love.

Sadly, for men and women, there are mental, emotional and physical problems associated with withholding one's love and not being able to "let go" sexually through a climax. In women we see orgasm impotence as sexual passivity taught by strict upbringing and perceived religious beliefs. In men we see these blocks as having no feeling in the penis during sex and

the resulting premature or inability to ejaculate. In both sexes, lack of sexual education and problems with sexual preferences can lead to negative feelings toward their partners. Severe blockages are associated with exhaustion, depression and low self esteem. Frustrated sexual responses often turn into rage,

If this was not enough, we find differences in peaking sexual desires by sex and age. Men peak sexually at age 18 and after that diminish steadily yearly. There is a "honeymoon" period from ages 25 to 35 when both partners have mostly equal sex drives. However, between 35- 40 we see woman's sexual desires climb to peak at the same level that of an eighteen year old boy.

There are social implications where many women want to go back to school or work after the kids are grown to "find themselves", just at the point when their husbands may want to "settle down." The majority of divorces in the West take place in couples in the 35 – 40 age range. Men, whose machismo is suffering, ask for divorce and couple with younger women. The community believes he is making the move to enhance his sex, but we know the younger woman has much lower sexual urges that match his much better.

Any love relationships that are not women-based are socially taboo. Regardless, the reality is that bisexual and homosexual feelings are part of life and there is no greater marital friction than trying to live with a socially acceptable marriage that does not reflect their sexual preference.

Get The Point! We

need to become comfortable with our bodies and sex. Balancing physical health naturally, with good nutrition and lifestyle counseling together with couple counseling by a professional trained in treating self-worth, jealousy, anxiety, stress, depression or other issues can guide us to a satisfying love relationship. Choosing help that includes physical, emotional, and spiritual work is a holistic approach. Are you and your partner ready? Healing one's self is the first step to finding true happiness. Call us for a consultation to begin bringing the love we can truly be thankful for into our lives.

□□ CARLOS VIANA, Ph. D. is an Oriental Medical Doctor (O.M.D.) having studied in China; a US Board Cert. Clinical Nutritionist (C.C.N.), an Addiction Professional (C.Ad.), Chairperson of the Latin American Committee of the International Academy of Oral Medicine and Toxicology (IAOMT), a Rejuvenating Cell Therapist specializing in Age Management, has a weekly radio program, writes and lectures extensively. For information: VIANA HEALING CENTER, Kibaima 7, St Cruz TEL: 585-1270 Web Site: www.vianaheal.com

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Amtrak to install long-sought cameras in locomotives

By JOAN LOWY

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) -- Amtrak said Tuesday it will install video cameras inside locomotive cabs to record the actions of train engineers, a move that follows a deadly derailment earlier this month in which investigators are searching for clues to the train engineer's actions before the crash.

The Amtrak engineer, Brandon Bostian, suffered a head injury in the accident in Philadelphia and has told investigators he can't remember what happened. Northeast Regional train 188 accelerated to a speed of 106 miles per hour in the last minute before entering a curve where it derailed.

The speed limit for the curve is 50 mph. The crash left eight people dead and about 200 injured.

The train was equipped with a "black box" data recorder and an outward-facing camera focused on the track ahead, but neither of those devices reveals what was happening inside the cab.

The National Transportation Safety Board has been recommending that the Federal Railroad Administration require passenger and freight train cabs to have audio recorders since the late 1990s. They revised that recommendation five years ago to include inward-facing sound and video recorders.

Railroad administration officials say they support use of the cameras. In the past year, the agency has told the NTSB that it intends to propose regulations requiring



In this May 12, 2015 file photo, emergency personnel work the scene of a train wreck. An Amtrak train headed to New York City derailed and crashed in Philadelphia.

Associated Press

ing the cameras. However, no regulations have been proposed and it typically takes federal agencies many months, if not years, to move from proposals to final regulations.

Joseph Boardman, the railroad's president and CEO, said Amtrak has supported efforts by a railroad administration safety advisory committee made up of industry and labor representatives to come up with standards for the cameras. The committee has yet to issue recommendations.

"We've been supporting it all the way along," he told reporters in a telephone briefing. "It's just a matter of working out some of those details. ... There may be some adjustments we have to make later down the road, but I think it's time to do it and I'm doing it." Besides accident investigations, Amtrak will review the recordings to monitor engi-

neers' actions, Boardman said.

Unions representing engineers at Amtrak and other passenger and freight railroads have generally opposed use of the cameras. As recently as 2012, railroad administration officials had also opposed requiring the cameras, telling NTSB they were concerned the cameras might lower employee morale and the images might be used punitively by railroads.

Officials for the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen didn't immediately respond to a request for comment.

Robert Mongeluzzi, a Philadelphia attorney representing 10 passengers who were on the train, said Amtrak shouldn't wait until after a disaster to make safety changes. The railroad has also announced since the crash that it will install technology before

remains, "Why wasn't this done much earlier?" he said.

Cameras will first be installed in 70 new Amtrak locomotives that will power all Northeast Regional and long-distance trains between Washington, New York and Boston, as well as Keystone Service between New York, Philadelphia and Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Most of those locomotives will be equipped with the cameras before the end of the year, and the rest by sometime this spring, Boardman told reporters in a telephone briefing.

Amtrak is developing a plan for installation of cameras in the rest of its locomotive fleet, including Acela Express locomotives, but no time table has been set for those installations. The railroad has about 300 locomotives nationwide.

It's not unusual for engineers to be killed in train crashes, or to be seriously injured and not remember details clearly. □

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Ryanair beats forecasts again as annual profits rise 66 pct

S. POGATCHNIK

Associated Press

DUBLIN (AP) — Europe's leading budget airline Ryanair has beaten forecasts again, reporting full-year net profits of 867 million euros (\$949 million), 66 percent higher than the year before.

The Dublin-based airline said Tuesday it filled 88 percent of its seats, up 5

points, in the fiscal year ending in March. Sales rose 12 percent to 5.65 billion euros (\$6.2 billion) chiefly because of relentless route expansion combined with the impact of the airline's 2014 decision to improve customer service, including introduction of a new flexible business-friendly ticket.

Shares in the airline surged

7.5 percent to 11.70 euros (\$12.80) on the Irish Stock Exchange by midafternoon.

Ryanair unveiled a target for the fiscal year 2016 of between 940 million euros and 970 million euros. Many analysts said they expected Ryanair to beat that forecast, potentially breaching the 1 billion euro barrier, given that the

airline raised its initial 2015 profit forecast five times — and even its final top target, 850 million euros, fell short of Tuesday's official result.

Davy Stockbrokers called Ryanair's forecast "very robust." The Dublin broker said it now expects Ryanair shares soon will reach 12 euros, a level last attained in February 2007 right be-

fore the airline conducted a 2-for-1 share split.

Chief Executive Michael O'Leary said advance bookings are running 4 percent higher than last year, which should help the carrier fill 90 percent of its seats in fiscal 2016.

Profits would be even higher were it not for Ryanair's policy of buying fuel contracts far in advance. □

Slumping energy sector leads a broad sell-off in US stocks

KEN SWEET

AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The stock market endured its worst day in three weeks on Tuesday as investors fretted over Greece's debt crisis and a surge in the U.S. dollar.

Investors seeking safety bought U.S. government bonds.

The Dow Jones Industrial average lost 190.48 points, or 1 percent, to 18,041.54. The Standard & Poor's 500 index lost 21.86 points, also 1 percent, to 2,104.20 and the Nasdaq composite fell 56.61 points, or 1.1 percent, to 5,032.75.

Only a handful of stocks, 32 out of the S&P 500's members, posted gains. Time Warner Cable rose after agreeing to be acquired by Charter Communications for \$55 billion. Time Warner closed up \$12.42, or 7 percent, to \$183.60. Charter rose \$4.45, or 2.5 percent, to \$179.78.

The drop Tuesday can be tied to two phenomena that, when put together, caused the selling to compound.

On one side, investors remain concerned about Greece's ability to repay its debts. Greece might miss a payment on June 5 if it fails to receive bailout funds from creditors, who are demanding that the country make reforms to its economy. Talks to reach a deal resumed Tuesday after a weekend break, but it is unclear whether an agreement can be reached in time.

Also, the value of the U.S. dollar surged Tuesday, causing reverberations in several markets. The price of oil, gold and other commodities, which are priced in dollars, dropped. That, in turn, pushed down the stocks of companies which do business in those commodities, such as copper and gold miners, or do most of their business outside the U.S. Industrial, oil and gas, and material sector companies were all broadly lower.

While investors have considered Greece's financial troubles for years now, the country is precariously close to the edge this time.



Trader Peter Tuchman, left, works the post that handles Time Warner Cable on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange, Tuesday, May 26, 2015. Charter Communications is buying Time Warner Cable for \$55.33 billion, creating another U.S. TV and Internet giant.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

It owes 6.7 billion euros this month to investors and the International Monetary Fund and does not have the cash to pay it.

Meanwhile, another big question for investors is when the Federal Reserve will finally make its first interest rate increase in almost

a decade. Many expect that to occur either later this year or early next year. "If you think Greece is actually in its last throes in the eurozone it's better to be safe and park your money in U.S. dollars and deal with the Fed's interest rate increase down the road," said Quincy Krosby, a mar-

ket strategist at Prudential Financial.

Both the European Central Bank and the Bank of Japan are in the midst of bond-buying programs to stimulate their economies, as the Fed did recently in the U.S. A byproduct of those programs can be a weakened currency. □

Charter agrees to acquire Time Warner Cable for \$56.7B

MARK SCOTT

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Charter Communications agreed Tuesday to buy its much larger rival Time Warner Cable for \$56.7 billion in a deal that would transform the company into one of America's largest cable and broadband operators. The announcement represents the latest in a flurry of takeovers in the sector as companies struggle to keep pace with changes in

how Americans watch and pay for television. As customers increasingly stream videos through the Internet, cable providers have sought deals to gain scale and greater bargaining power with content providers.

The multibillion-dollar offer also marks a culmination for Charter and its main backer, the 74-year-old billionaire media mogul John C. Malone, who will have

transformed Charter from a small operator born in St. Louis in 1993 into the country's second-largest cable company, behind Comcast.

Analysts said that Charter's bid for Time Warner Cable highlighted the need for cable and broadband companies to join forces as the industry experienced its latest round of consolidation.

"The timing of this deal

clearly shows how desperate Time Warner Cable is to be acquired," said Paolo Pescatore, an analyst with the technology research company CCS Insight. "A tie-up with another cable provider makes perfect sense given the altering landscape in the broadcast industry."

Under the terms of the proposed deal, Charter offered investors in Time Warner Cable \$195.71 for each

share in the company in a cash-and-stock deal. That values Time Warner Cable at \$78.7 billion, roughly 14 percent higher than its closing stock price Friday. (U.S. stock markets were closed for the Memorial Day holiday on Monday.)

If the deal is completed, the combined company will be named New Charter, and its services will be sold under the brand name Spectrum. □

Rush to Judgment



GAIL COLLINS

© 2015 New York Times Time flies when you're having fun. Memorial Day weekend, the Fourth of July and then, the next thing you know, it will be Aug. 6, the anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima and the date of the first Republican presidential debate. Less than 11 weeks away! True, 11 weeks is nearly twice the length of the entire national election schedule in the United Kingdom. But this is why we had the Revolutionary War.

"It's actually not early," said a Republican National Committee spokeswoman. "Four years ago the debates started in May."

Think about that, people. This presidential campaign is slow getting started.

Fox News, which is hosting the debate, doesn't want more than 10 people on stage, and that's a challenge because the number of Republican hopefuls is somewhere between 15 and 2,376. There are two ways to think about this. One is that having 10 debaters is still ridiculous. It'll be like a playground fight conducted entirely by middle-aged people in suits.

The other is the howls from the potentially excluded. Fox's idea is to take the candidates who score highest in the polls. When you get down below the top seven or eight, you're talking about people who have failed to break 2 percent. But they all believe that's just because they have yet to blossom.

"The idea that a national poll has any relationship to the viability of a candidate - ask Rudy Giuliani that, ask Phil Gramm that," sniped Rick Santorum, one of the likely excludees.

Have you noticed that whenever anybody wants to bring up disastrous presidential candidates of the past, the first name that pops up is Rudy Giuliani? Do you think he minds being a walking embodiment of Failure to Meet Expectations?

But about Rick Santorum. He's nowhere in the polls now, but he did win a couple of primaries in 2012. We have not seen much of him since then, except for his spirited and successful battle to block ratification of the U.N. treaty on the Rights of Persons With Disabilities.

How many of you are willing to

give up Rick Santorum? Fine. But you're going to have to tell him. At this point, presidential polls are mainly about name recognition - or, in the case of Donald Trump, the fact that some Republican voters have a dark sense of humor. Carly Fiorina, who's trailing, isn't exactly an average-American-household name, despite her spectacular crash-landing as CEO of Hewlett-Packard. But she expressed confidence - via her super PAC - that her "growing momentum" would get her into the Top 10.

At the Iowa GOP Lincoln Day Dinner last weekend, where 11 hopeful Republicans gave speeches, Fiorina went out of her way to show her foreign policy chops.

"I know King Abdullah of Jordan. ..."

"I can remember as well sitting in Bibi Netanyahu's office. ..."

Fiorina had to be forced offstage when she went over the 10-minute time limit. Ten minutes is probably about 20 times what candidates are going to get in those debates, so it is possible we are detecting a future problem.

Perhaps you are wondering how the other candidates fared as dinner speakers. Gov. Scott Walker of Wisconsin revealed that he not only lived in Iowa as a child, he spent part of that childhood wandering around the neighborhood with an empty mayonnaise jar, raising money to buy a state flag for the city hall. "Stories like that are what's great about Iowa, what's great about the Midwest, what's great about America," he said modestly.

Jeb Bush won a lot of support when he avoided saying anything weird. "First and foremost, I'm the husband of Columba Bush," he told the gathering, reminding them that he had at least one member of the family who has not yet involved the nation in a war in the Middle East. Sen. Lindsey Graham of South Carolina veered between corny jokes and foreign policy, which created a strange effect. It's not every day you'll find a candidate who can giggle while saying, "I'm going to call a drone and we will kill you."

I say keep Lindsey Graham. And, what the heck, Carly Fiorina. And Rick Perry, who was a veritable sunbeam in Iowa, burbling on about the corn crop while the other speakers were so down on the Barack Obama era that they sounded virtually suicidal. Plus, we know that Perry is the kind of guy who can really perk up a debate.

Fox News says that if it bumps some candidates, they'll get "additional coverage and airtime" the same day. It's not clear whether this would be an interview or a second Clash of the Losers debate. We definitely want the debate, Maybe featuring Gov. Chris Christie, Donald Trump and Rick Santorum, together again for the first time. □



When the Rapist Doesn't See It as Rape



NICHOLAS KRISTOF
© 2015 New York Times

Brian Banks was one of America's best high school football players when, in 2002, at age 16, he was accused of rape.

The accuser, Wanetta Gibson, said Banks had forced her into a stairway at their high school in California and raped her.

Expelled from school and then later convicted of rape, Banks served more than five years in prison. He became not a professional football star but a registered sex offender.

Then, in 2011, Gibson recanted. There was no rape (apparently she made the accusation to prevent her mom from learning that she had been sexually active). Banks was eventually exonerated and his conviction overturned, and, at 28, he played briefly for the Atlanta Falcons. But, after a decade away from football, it was too late to catch up.

That kind of nightmare is what many Americans have in mind when they fear an aggressive clampdown on sexual violence. It's a legitimate fear.

Jon Krakauer tells the story of Brian Banks in his terrific new book, "Missoula," as a cautionary reminder. Yet, in his book about acquaintance rapes in a college town, he also makes clear that what is far more common is another kind of injustice: perpetrators of rape who get away with it again and again.

One careful study found that

false allegations make up between 2 and 10 percent of rape cases. Yet victims (mostly women and girls, but also men and boys) are routinely tarnished or blamed; Human Rights Watch reported this month that nearly two-thirds of members of the military who report sexual assaults face reprisals. Given the risks, the great majority of rape cases are never reported to the authorities. The result is impunity. And that fosters more rape.

Scholars have found that many sexual assaults are carried out by a small number of men who strike repeatedly - often without realizing that they are rapists.

The way this research is conducted is astonishing: Men were simply surveyed and asked whether they had ever had sex with someone who didn't want to. Remarkably, men repeatedly said, yes, they had.

One of the most chilling sections of Krakauer's book quotes a fraternity brother, "Frank," describing his technique to a researcher, David Lisak:

"We'd be on the lookout for the good-looking girls, especially the freshmen, the really young ones. They were the easiest. ... Then we'd get them drinking right away. ... They'd be guzzling it, you know, because they were freshmen, kind of nervous."

"Frank" recounted how he targeted one young woman, plied her with alcohol-spiked punch, and then led her to a bed. "At some point, she started saying things like ... 'I don't want to do this right away,' or something like that. I just kept working on her clothes ... and she started squirming. But that actually helped, because her blouse came off easier. ... She tried to push me off, so I pushed her back down. ... I mean, she was so plastered that she probably didn't know what was going on, anyway. I don't know, maybe that's why she started pushing on me. But, you know, I just kept leaning on her, pulling off her clothes."

"Frank" said he kept his arm across her chest, by the base of her neck, to reduce her squirming as he had sex with her. When he was finished, he dressed and returned to the party.

And the woman? "She left."

There are no easy solutions, but one way to fight the epidemic is legal: Prosecute aggressively, while recognizing that sexual encounters are often complex, ambiguous, fueled by alcohol, and prone to he-said-she-said uncertainties.

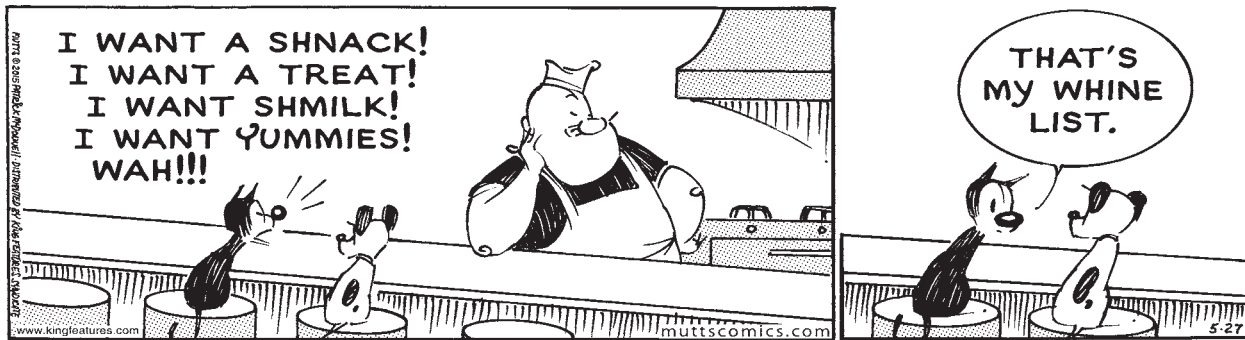
Another way to fight back is cultural: Blunt conversations among men and women alike about consent, alcohol, and the need for friends to step up with what's called "bystander intervention." That means that just as you don't let a friend drive drunk, you don't let a friend take advantage of someone - or let a plastered friend get steered to a predator's bed.

One of the fundamental challenges is that the word rape conjures a mental image of a stranger jumping out of bushes. Sure, that happens. But most sexual assault happens among acquaintances. We flinch at the truth that most rapists are less likely to point a gun than to proffer a plastic cup of booze, that they charm and kiss before they menace. That's why men must be a part of these discussions, for it's a failing of all society that men like Frank are unaware that they are rapists.

I'll encourage my (college-age) kids to read "Missoula." And we need to have more open conversations among young men and women alike about the genuine risks of false accusations - but also about the far more common injustice of lax legal and social mores that allow predators get away with rape after rape. It's time to stop flinching.

Contact Kristof at Facebook.com/Kristof, Twitter.com/Nick-Kristof or by mail at The New York Times, 620 Eighth Ave., New York, NY 10018. □

Mutts



6 Chix



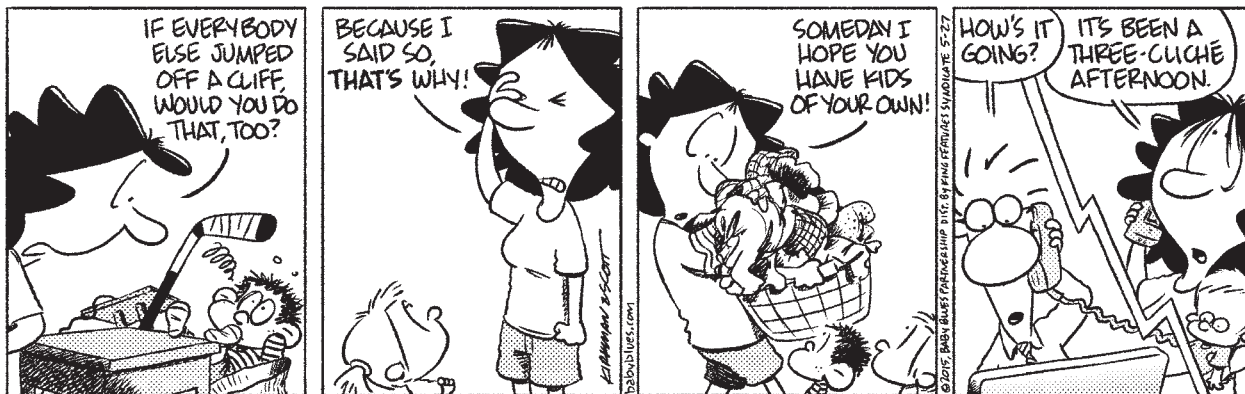
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Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



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| 3 | 7 | | | | | 5 | 9 | |
| 1 | | | | | | 6 | | |

Difficulty Level ★★

5/27

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

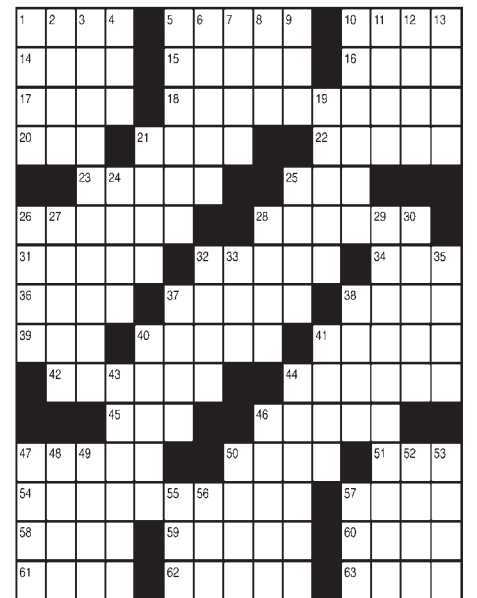
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| 4 | 7 | 5 | 6 | 1 | 9 | 3 | 2 | 8 |
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| 5 | 4 | 7 | 9 | 6 | 2 | 1 | 8 | 3 |
| 2 | 8 | 1 | 3 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 9 | 4 |
| 7 | 9 | 6 | 2 | 4 | 5 | 8 | 3 | 1 |
| 3 | 5 | 4 | 1 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 2 |

ACROSS

- Hired vehicles
- Layers of wood in a board
- Rescuer
- Done; finished
- Summary
- Declare openly
- Bowler's target
- Hyper
- Monogram for Mamie's man
- Floored
- Lubricated
- Legend
- Round roll in a bread basket
- Game birds
- End a phone call
- Mom's brother
- Royal decree
- Woman with a habit
- Play divisions
- Keep the __; remain hopeful
- Destiny
- Singing couple
- Mount Sinai climber
- Terra __; garden pot clay
- Hooky player
- One who dies for his beliefs
- Last but __ least
- Henry or Peter
- Up and about
- Sad
- NBC rival
- New club member's ritual
- Cincinnati, __
- Foal's mother
- Wide
- Leafless plant
- Drove too fast
- Throws
- __ up; totals

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

5/27/15



Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

| | | |
|-----------|-----------|-------|
| FEB | CABIN | ABCS |
| BAAS | ABATE | GRIP |
| ITCH | BORIS | RATE |
| SHABBIEST | EYED | |
| MAIL | LIE | |
| STRIKE | GRINDING | |
| CRANE | DRUNK | GOO |
| RUNG | BEING | ALSO |
| ACT | WELLS | FLOES |
| MESSHALL | MOROSE | |
| NOR | NONE | |
| SODA | ASCERTAIN | |
| CHIC | BLURT | DRIP |
| OINK | LARVA | YOGA |
| TOES | EMBER | NHL |

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5/27/15

- Wanders about stealthily
- Embankment
- Coated with a sugary glaze
- Hearing organ
- Hot tub
- Detesting
- Wicked
- Wander; roam
- Had debts
- __ on; have confidence in
- Qualified
- Feels sick
- "Brandenburg Concertos" composer
- 4-wheel ATV
- Still whole
- Swats
- Not connected
- Goo used to fill wood crevices
- Vane direction
- Pass away
- Close-by
- Helvetica, Arial or Palatino

DOWN

- Lung disease, for short
- Very eager
- Generous one
- Last year's jrs.

- Mustang maker
- Native New Zealander
- Walking stick
- Came together
- Candy bar
- Root beer __; ice cream treat
- Intentions
- Lose it
- Grow weary
- Short life sketches
- Hawk or heron
- Male children
- Alphabet's start
- Refrain syllable
- Son __ gun

Taco Bell, Pizza Hut: Artificial ingredients are getting the boot

CANDICE CHOI

AP Food Industry Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Taco Bell and Pizza Hut say they're getting rid of artificial colors and flavors, making them the latest big food companies scrambling to distance themselves from ingredients people might find unappetizing.

Instead of "black pepper flavor," for instance, Taco Bell will start using actual black pepper in its seasoned beef, says Liz Matthews, the chain's chief food innovation officer.

The Mexican-style chain also says the artificial dye Yellow No. 6 will be removed from its nacho cheese, Blue No. 1 will be removed from its avocado ranch dressing and carmine, a bright pigment, will be removed from its red tortilla strips.

Matthews said some of the new recipes are being tested in select markets and should be in stores nationally by the end of the year. The country's biggest food makers are facing pressure from smaller rivals that position themselves as more wholesome alternatives. Chipotle in particular has found success in marketing itself as an antidote to traditional fast food. In April, Chipotle announced it had removed genetically modified organisms from its food, even though the Food and Drug Administration says GMOs are safe.

Critics say the purging of chemicals is a response to unfounded fears over ingredients, but companies are nevertheless rushing to ensure their recipes don't become disadvantages. In recent months, restaurant chains including Panera, McDonald's and Subway have said they're switching recipes for one or more products to use ingredients people can more easily recognize.

John Coupland, a professor of food science at Penn State University, said companies are realizing some ingredients may not be worth the potential harm they might cause to their images, given changing attitudes about additives. □

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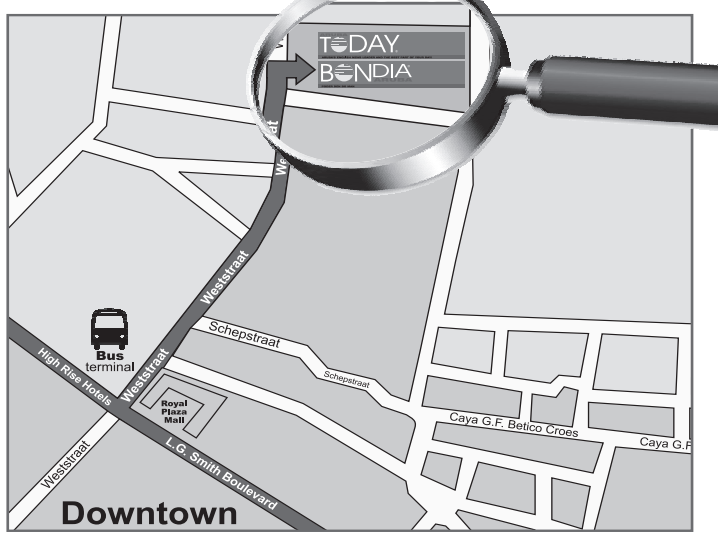
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Scientists warn plant knowledge lost as botany studies drop

CLAUDIA LAUER
Associated Press
MOUNT IDA, Arkansas (AP) — Scientists are warning that the plant world could become a virtual mystery in the coming decades as college students increasingly shy away from studying botany and universities across the U.S. shutter their long-standing collections of plant species. Since 1988, the number of research universities offering botany degrees has dropped by half, according to National Science Foundation research fund-

ing statistics. The National Center for Education Statistics reports that fewer than 400 undergraduate, graduate and doctoral botany degrees were awarded in 2012. Educators say that's because students are being pushed into more modern, technology-related majors. Botanists fear that will lead to a shortage of people able to teach about, identify and use plants, which could harm conservation efforts and even the ability to develop alternate fuels and important medicines.



In this May 7, 2015 photo, botanist Theo Witsell examines a plant near Mount Ida, Ark. Witsell, the botanist for the Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission, and a handful of other commission staff have combed the state in recent years to find, collect and preserve more than 70,000 native plant species.

Associated Press



At the same time, universities and states facing budget cuts are closing herbaria, or collections of plant species that botanists can reference or use for genetic material. "We aren't going to understand what we have in the world. By some

estimates, only 20 percent of the (plant and animal) species in the world have been identified," said Joe Miller, a program officer at the National Science Foundation's Division of Environmental Biology. Researchers acknowledge

the bulky collections of plant specimens that are mounted, dried, dated and tagged with pivotal information can be hard to maintain. They require temperature and moisture control and space for the preparation process. □

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Sen. Mitch McConnell working on memoir

HILLEL ITALIE

AP National Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Sen. Mitch McConnell, the Senate majority leader, is working on a memoir.

The Kentucky Republican told The Associated Press on Tuesday that he planned to tell both his personal story, including overcoming polio as a child in Alabama, and the story of his long career in public life.

"It's hard for me to believe it's been four decades in politics," McConnell, 73, said during a telephone interview, adding that the book "gives you an opportunity to convey the lessons you've learned over the years."

Known as one of Washington's savviest politicians, McConnell has given his book the working title, "The Long Game," a reference to his ability to prevail as a legislator and as a political candidate. He was first elected to the Senate



In this May 5, 2015 file photo, Senate Majority Leader Sen. Mitch McConnell of Ky. walks to his office on Capitol Hill in Washington.

Associated Press

in 1984 and has withstood various challenges, including a tough primary against conservative businessman Matt Bevin in 2014.

Asked if he would write

about some of his political rivals, from President Barack Obama to his Democratic counterpart in the Senate, Minority Leader Harry Reid of Nevada, McConnell said

the book would be a "candid assessment of the people I've worked with and negotiated with and some of the challenges and opportunities we've had over

some 30 years in the Senate."

Talks with publishers are expected to take place over the summer, and McConnell does not yet have a release date in mind. He will be represented by Washington attorney Robert Barnett, whose clients have included Obama and such Republicans as former President George W. Bush and former Vice President Dick Cheney. McConnell said he will have assistance on the book, which he has begun, and that one reason he's waited this long has been the relentless pace of being Senate minority leader from 2007-2015 and now majority leader after Republicans regained power in the Senate in the 2014 elections. "This job I've had in the past eight years is like standing in front of a fire hose; it just keeps coming at you," he said. "You tend not to have a lot of time for reflection." □

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ORANJESTAD- Benjamin Petrocchi, a true native Aruban started the newest export product of Aruba, locally produced hand rolled cigars called "Aruhiba". These cigars are produced and cultivated in Aruba. Petrocchi always had a interest in the cigar business and has also sold Premium Cuban Cigars, and now he is growing his own tobacco crops. After many attempts and trips to Santo Domingo and Cuba, he started his own production and cultivation of Aruhiba Cigars in Aruba. The whole process took him 10 years to perfect. Petrocchi dedication to the cigars is important for the moulding and process of making a perfect cigar which takes a long time. Their handmade cigar box is specially designed with their "Aruhiba" logo. Petrocchi considers

Aruhiba as a promotion for Aruba through its fine cigars. The company sells Aruhiba to the international markets as well. Visit their retail store located in front of the Historic Dutch Windmill in front of the RIO Hotel, with any purchase of \$20 and up you receive a free "Aruhiba" cigar or ask for their gift box of 5 cigars get 1 FREE for only \$37. They open from Monday to Saturday from 9 am till 6:30 pm and on Sundays from 10 am to 4 pm. Aruhiba cigars are now available at the gift stores in your resort and at well-known cigar stores. For their complete selection and attractive by the box prices visit their retail store. Tours are also



Owner Benjamin Petrocchi

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Bob Marley musical tries to help heal an uneasy Baltimore

MARK KENNEDY
AP Drama Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Most theater professionals like to say that whatever they're working on is very relevant to what's going on in the real world. That was not possibly more true than in Baltimore this spring. The city's flagship theater, Center Stage, debuted a musical about reggae icon and civil rights activist Bob Marley during the city's spasm of violence and peaceful protests following the death of Freddie Gray in police custody. Several preview performances for the musical "Marley" were lost amid protests marching near the theater and the actors had to rush to finish rehearsals early on several evenings to accommodate a city-wide curfew. There were soldiers, horses and armored vehicles in the streets and helicopters in the air as the cast and crew tried to finish a work that highlighted the life of a singer who demanded



This image released by Center Stage shows Mitchell Brunings during a performance of the musical "Marley."

Associated Press

social justice and freedom for black people. A new framing scene was added to the play in which two black men watch footage of the Baltimore protests on a smartphone, making the connection be-

tween the two movements clear. On May 2, the cast went out into the streets to give a free concert, including singing "One Love" to try to heal the city. "When real life is happening around you and you're

trying to produce art, you have to submit to real life and have faith," said Kwame Kwei-Armah, Center Stage's artistic director who also wrote and directed the Marley musical. "I'm not sure in my life that

I'll ever feel that connected or ever feel that blessed or ever feel that visceral call that theater is about the here and now." The musical focuses on the years 1975 to 1978, when Marley survived an attempted assassination in Jamaica and went into exile in London. It's the first time a stage musical has used both Marley's songs and his life story. The musical features mid-'70s Marley albums as "Exodus," "Kaya," and "Rastaman Vibration," which include the songs "Jamming," "Three Little Birds" and "Roots, Rock, Reggae." Mitchell Brunings portrays the title character. Kwei-Armah played Marley's song "Burnin' and Lootin'" on his way into work on the night of the first curfew. The song's lyrics were prescient: This morning I woke up in a curfew/ Oh God, I was a prisoner, too/ Could not recognize the faces standing over me/ They were all dressed in uniforms of brutality."□

Nielsen survey says Liam Neeson is big ad man

DAVID BAUDER
AP Television Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Ad executives looking for a celebrity to endorse their product can't do much better than actor Liam Neeson. That's the conclusion of the Nielsen company, which looked at celebrities who made commercials during the first three months of the year and ranked them with a calculation that takes into account likability, public awareness, influence and other factors. Its first "N-Scores" were released Tuesday. Neeson and Pierce Brosnan had identical scores of 94, although Neeson was judged to have a greater influence in getting products sold. By looking at the effectiveness of celebrity pitchmen, the company best known for television ratings will now compete with Marketing Evaluations Inc., a



In this March 24, 2015 file photo, actor Liam Neeson poses for photographers during the presentation of the film "Run All Night" in Madrid.

Associated Press

company that produces the better-known Q Score, a measurement of public attitudes toward well-known figures. Besides attaching scores to celebrity endorsers, Nielsen intends to offer marketers detailed information about the personalities and habits of people who respond

well to each celebrity so they can better match pitchmen and products, said Chad Dreas, Nielsen's managing director of media analytics. "What do they buy? Where do they shop? What do they watch?" said Dreas, describing the details Nielsen intends to sell.□

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